

light breeze and a light swell, the bird approaching us from the south-west. It proceeded to the lee of Breaksea Island where it made several swoops down at the water close to the edge of the rocks. It then flew back out to sea, passing 200 yards ahead of the *Warreen*, the pink tail feathers being easily seen by several of the interested members of the crew.

—N. E. STEWART, Cottesloe.

Records of the Smoker Parrot.—On May 29, 1951, I observed a flock of about 15 Smoker Parrots (*Polytelis anthopeplus*) in a roadside eucalypt nearly a mile from Chidlow townsite. They remained quietly in the lower branches of the tree and permitted of close observation. Chidlow is well within the jarrah forest block, an area not usually frequented by this parrot.

—L. SEDGWICK, Wooroloo.

At the end of May while working on my holding I was surprised to see a flock of these birds settle in a blue gum tree. As far as I was able to count there were 20 or more of them. A colony of Magpies dispersed the parrots and upset the count.

—T. B. DELAPORTE, Maddington.

On August 14, on the Northam road, 4 miles west of the Wundowie turn-off, two Smokers were seen feeding on spilled wheat at the roadside in company with two Common Bronzewings. A little further on 4 Twenty-eight Parrots were feeding similarly.

—D. L. SERVENTY, Nedlands.

Food Transference by Pallid Cuckoos.—On August, 14, 1951, about 1630 hours, we encountered three or four Pallid Cuckoos (*Cuculus pallidus*) in part-cleared country by Wooroloo Brook. Two of these were kept under observation for perhaps 20 minutes. One bird flew down to the ground from an elevated perch calling "Peep-peep-peep" and procured a long hairy caterpillar. It then flew to a blackboy (*Xanthorrhoea*) inflorescence about 50 yards away and elung sideways to the spike for a short time before flying to a dead tree and presenting the caterpillar to a bird which shortly afterwards uttered a harsh grating "Tweet." This bird was apparently the female of a pair.

The male then flew to some distance and, after a pause, again uttered the "Peep-peep-peep" call. The female flew to meet the male on a blackboy spike and was presented with a large hairy caterpillar. Flying to a dead tree, the female ate the caterpillar while the male flew off and resumed the "Peep-peep-peep" call after an interval.

When the male again flew towards the female, she descended a few feet in the tree to meet him and received a small striped hairy grub. The male then flew away and after a time resumed the "Peep-peep-peep" call. It flew, hovered, pounced on a caterpillar, and flying to a bush, still calling, ate the caterpillar.

We then lost sight of one of the birds and broke off observations.